

B. P. TAYLOR,
Silvadore.
Lighters and Steam Launches
Supplied.
ILOILO, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

THE UNITED ASBESTOS
ORIENTAL AGENCY
Sole Agents for the
UNITED ASBESTOS COMPANY, LTD. LONDON.
DODWELL & CO. LIMITED,
General Managers.

NEW SERIES No. 1493. 日三十月三年六十二精光

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1900.

四拜禮 號二十月四英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER A.V.NUM.

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$10,000,000
RESERVE FUND \$11,500,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROP'TORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

A. Siebs, Esq., Chairman.
R. Shewan, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

E. Goetz, Esq.

R. M. Gray, Esq. D. M. Moses, Esq.

A. Haupt, Esq. A. J. Raymond, Esq.

The Hon. J. I. Keswick R. L. Richardson, Esq.

H. W. Slade, Esq. P. Sachse, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—Sir Thomas Jackson.

MANAGER:
Shanghai—J. P. Wade Gardner, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 2½ per cent. per annum.

For 6 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

For 12 months, 4 per cent. per annum.

H. M. BEVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 4th April, 1900.

[9]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

The business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,

H. M. BEVIS,
Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 26th March, 1900.

[10]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorised Capital \$1,000,000

Paid up Capital \$324,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Board of Directors:

Chan Kit Shan, Esq. D. Gillies, Esq.

Chow Tung Shang, Esq. J. T. Lauts, Esq.

Chief Manager,

GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR,

Interest for 12 months Fixed 5%
Hongkong, 20th December, 1899.

[11]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE
OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Taels.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL \$5,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$2,500,000

Head Office—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies:
CANTON PEKING.
CHEFOO PENANG.
CHINKIANG SINGAPORE.
CHUNKHIAH SWATOW.
FOOCHOW TIENSIN.
HANKOW.

THE Bank purchases and receives for collection Bills of Exchange drawn on the above places, and sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers Payable at its Branches and Agencies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.

Advances made on approved securities.

Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

3% per annum. Fixed Deposits for 3 months.

4% " " 6 "

5% " " 12 "

E. W. RUTTER,
Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 1st February, 1900.

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THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1855.

HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP \$800,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-HOLDERS \$800,000

RESERVE FUND \$500,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months... 4 per cent.

" " 6 " 3½ "

" " 3 " 3½ "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,
Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 20th May, 1898.

[13]

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED Yen 24,000,000

CAPITAL PAID-UP \$12,000,000

CAPITAL UNCALLED \$12,000,000

RESERVE FUND \$7,500,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies:

KOBE NAGASAKI LONDON.

LYONS NEW YORK.

SAN FRANCISCO HONOLULU.

BOMBAY SHANGHAI.

TIENTSIN NEWchwang.

LONDON BANKERS:

THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.

PARR'S BANK, LTD.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LTD.

HONGKONG AGENCY—INTEREST ALLOWED:

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.

" " 6 " 4 "

" " 3 " 3 "

S. CHÖH,
Hongkong Manager.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1900.

[14]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

\$4.50 per Cask of 375 lbs. Net ex Factory.

\$2.80 per Bag of 250 lbs.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1900.

[15]

Intimations.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

(to)

FOR STEAMERS CAPTAINS TO SAIL REMARKS

SHAI & PAN, Japan W. G. Wright About 14th April Freight or Passage.

SHANGHAI Chusan C. T. Denny, R.N.R. About 13th April Freight or Passage.

LONDON, &c. Massilia C. Gadd. Noon, 14th April Freight or Passage.

JAPAN Rohilla S. Tocque, R.N.R. About 14th April Freight or Passage.

MARSEILLE & LONDON DIRECT. S.S. "CANDIA" About 16th April Freight only.

(Without Transhipment.)

LONDON Malacca E. G. Andrew, R.N.R. About 3rd May Freight or Passage.

* (See Special Advertisement). + (Passing through the Inland Sea).

Via SINGAPORE and COLOMBO.

For Further Particulars, apply to

A. M. MARSHALL, Acting Superintendent.

[16]

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.

(to)

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA,

ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, BREMEN/HAMBURG;

PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIc PORTS;

ALSO

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON,

AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS;

Steamers will call at SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

'PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS SAILING DATES.

WEIMAR WEDNESDAY, 18th April.

PRINZ HEINRICH WEDNESDAY, 2nd May.

PREUSSEN WEDNESDAY, 16th May.

SACHSEN WEDNESDAY, 30th May.

OLDENBURG THURSDAY, 14th June.

BAVARIA THURSDAY, 28th June.

STUTTGART THURSDAY, 12th July.

KONIG ALBERT THURSDAY, 26th July.

PRINZ HEINRICH THURSDAY, 9th August.

PREUSSEN THURSDAY, 23rd August.

SACHSEN THURSDAY, 6th September.

HAMBURG, Hamburg-Amerika Line THURSDAY, 20th September.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd October.

WEDNESDAY, 17th October.

WEDNESDAY, 31st October.

BAVARIA WEDNESDAY, 1st November.

STUTTGART WEDNESDAY, 28th November.

KONIG ALBERT WEDNESDAY, 12th December.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of April, 1900, at

NOON, the Steamship "WEIMAR" of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, Captain H. Meyer, with MAIls, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 16th April, Cargo and Specie will be received on board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 17th April, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 17th April.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50 and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess.

Linen can be washed on board.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

To-day's Advertisements.

THE CLIMAX CAPPING AMUSEMENT VENTURE OF THE AGE.

ILLUSTRIOUS! REFINED!! RENOWNED!!!

WARREN'S CIRCUS

The most Gigantic Enterprise known in the Annals of Hongkong Amusements.

GRAND OPENING—WEST POINT,
TO-MORROW, the 13th instant, at 9 P.M.

FIRST GRAND MATINEE, on SATURDAY, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

BOX PLAN at Messrs. ROBINSON PIANO CO.

W. PFLUEGER,
General Representative.

To-day's
Advertisement.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED,
FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHEW.
The Company's Steamship

"HAICHING,"
Captain Davis, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 15th instant,
at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.,
General Managers,
Hongkong, 12th April, 1900.

FIGHTING AT WEPENER.

There has been severe fighting at
Wepener during the last two days,
with considerable losses on both sides.
The result is not known.

LANDLORDS AND RENTS.

The last number of the *Porvir* contains a
seriously-written article on the serious question
of house-renting in the colony, which, it points
out, has reached a crucial stage.

Savvy landlords, remarks our contemporary,
one does not and cannot live in peace for the
unheard-of reason of being from month to
month liable to be served with notice to quit
one's premises, or to pay an increase of rent
amounting to twenty, thirty, forty per cent. or
more.

It is simply amazing that, under the reign of
a government we take for liberal and humanitarian,
the community should be subjected to the
whims and tender mercies of landlords in
whose discretionary power it is, to impose such
exactions, or the inconvenience of constantly
shifting from premises to premises.

Many a landlord, abusing his rights, meanly
trades upon the public weak; and the expedients
resorted to, so consummate from the social stand-
point, call for measures to check this lamentable
state of affairs.

Laudlords cannot be denied their rights to a
just return for their capital and a fair margin
for incidental expenses. But they should not be
granted a *carte blanche* to victimise tenants
by forcing upon them rents which absorb more
than half and perhaps three fourths of their incom-

THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS.

The following correspondence on the above
subject was laid on the table at to-day's meet-
ing of the Sanitary Board.

Sanitary Board Office,
20th March, 1900.

Sir,—I have the honour by direction of the
Sanitary Board, to recommend that the Governor
in Council may be pleased to make a
regulation under Ord. 9 of 1893, Sec. 5 to the
effect that:—

"Any dog unclaimed within a fortnight of the
expiration of the period of quarantine may be
sold by the Sanitary Board to defray expenses,
or, if unsaleable, may be destroyed."

There are three dogs at present in the
Quarantine Station whose owners have left the
Colony without leaving instructions as to the
disposal of the said dogs and it would appear
from the present Regulations that the Sanitary
Board has no authority to destroy or otherwise
dispose of these dogs.

I have, etc.
(Sd.) C. W. DUGGAN,
Secretary.

To the Hon. Colonial Secretary.

A letter from H. B. M.'s Consul General at
Shanghai was attached stating that the port
was free from rabies but that cases had occurred
within the last six months.

The M. O. H. minuted.—In view of the fact
that cases of rabies have occurred in Shanghai
during the past six months I recommend that
the prohibition of the importation of dogs from
that port be extended for a period of six months
from date.

The D. P. W. agreed with the M. O. H.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

To-day at noon an Extraordinary General
Meeting of Shareholders in the above Com-
pany was held. Mr. R. Shaw occupied the
chair, and there were also present the Hon.
C. P. Chater, Messrs. D. Gillies (Directors),
E. George, F. Henderson, A. Babbinburg, Fung
Wa Chuen, Sin Un, and Luh Yih Hui.

The Chairman proposed—"That the Capital of
the Company be increased to \$1,000,000 by
the creation and issue of 50,000 New Shares of
\$10 each fully paid up."

The Hon. C. P. Chater seconded. Carried.

The Chairman said that due notice would be
given of the confirmatory meeting.

LIMEWASHING.

The following was circulated among the
members of the Sanitary Board at the meeting
to-day:—

THE SERVICE OF LIMEWASHING REMINDERS.

Within the last 18 days (*i.e.*, since the intro-
duction of these new notices) we have only
been able to obtain about 300 names of owners
from the Land Office. The total number of
estates served up to noon on the 4th April,
was only 176. The total number of houses in
the Central District of the city is 4,000 odd, ex-
clusive of the houses in Yaumati which number
500 approx—and which have to be lime-
washed before the end of this month. These
reminders ought to be served before the 30th
April. At the present rate of obtaining the
names of owners, it will take fully 4 months.

DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING OWNERS' NAMES.

(a) The books in the Land Office are not up
to date, and difficulty is very often found in
obtaining the owners of properties.

(b) In many instances, when a Lot Number is
divided into several Sections and subsections,
as is generally the case, and finally into
Sections of the subsections, it is necessary to
refer to five or six volumes (huge books) in
order to find a single name, and this cannot be
done at once, because solicitors and others
generally crowd the Land Office the greater
part of the day, searching for names of owners,
Deeds, memorials and other papers.

(c) There is only one street Index in the Land
Office, and one Index to Lot Nos. (both old)
and therefore it is very difficult to have posses-
sion of the 2 books when many business people
are urgently in want of them at all times.

These 2 books are passed from one person
to another, and so a lot of time is wasted before
they get into my hands.

(d) Owing to great pressure of work in the
L. O. it is staff to register transfers of proper-
ties up-to-date, and so notices have in many
instances been served on the former owners
with the result that the notices have been
returned.

(e) In the case of new properties, such as
those on Connaught, Des Voeux, and Shaukiwan
Roads, and of a good many properties of Ya-
umati, Tsim-tsa-tsui and Hung-hong, the required
information is not obtainable at the L. O.

THE DRAINAGE BY-LAWS.

A letter was submitted from the Surveyor
(Mr. Drury) recommending the alteration of
Drainage By-law No. 55, or the addition or
another By-law made under Ordinance 24 of
1887, to give the Board power to enforce open
semi-egg shaped channels instead of under-
ground pipes, "to the greatest extent possible"
in any private house drainage scheme in the
city, which By-law No. 55 does not provide
for.

Dr. Hartigan, Mr. Osborne, and Dr. Lowson
minuted in favour of the scheme.

PLAQUE IN MACAO.

The deaths in Macao for the week ended
March 25th numbered 69, including 15 from
plague.

LIMEWASHING.

The fortnightly limewashing return stated:—
"The period for limewashing of the Central
district is still current. Many landlords leave
the limewashing till the last few days of the
period. The Inspector in charge of limewash-
ing reports that he has visited three or four
hundred houses (several times individually) for
which he has had notices of 'intention' whereon
work has not been started. This entails on
him considerable needless and avoidable work."

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The death rate of the colony for the week
ended March 24th was 273, against 23 for the
previous week and 143 for the corresponding
week last year.

EXTENSION OF TIME.

Wong Kam and Tin Wing Shing, of 26 and
28, Kennedy street, respectively, asked to be
allowed to keep their cattle in the sheds 26 and
18, Kennedy street, for a further period of four
months, i.e., until a new shed is built.

THE PLAQUE IN FORMOSA.

A return from the British Consul at Tainan
showed that from the 11th to 16th March, 137
cases of plague were reported. The deaths num-
bered 105, recoveries 15, under treatment 17.

JAPANESE TOPICS.

(From our Own Correspondent.)
YOKOHAMA, April 1st.

The attitude of Corea *vis-à-vis* Japan appears
to be gradually undergoing a change; a
change that is almost imperceptible to the
ordinary observer, but which is distinctly visible
to those who have closely followed recent
events. Towards the end of last month it was
reported that Japan applied to the Corean Gov-
ernment for permission to construct wireless
telegraphs in Corea, so that the mainland might
be brought into closer touch with the many is-

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FIRST GRAND MATINEE, on SATURDAY, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

BOX PLAN at Messrs. ROBINSON PIANO CO.

W. PFLUEGER,
General Representative.

[486b]

Hongkong, 12th April, 1900.

TO TEACHERS.

HIBBERDINE'S ILLUSTRATED COMPOSITION SERIES

MAKES LESSONS A PLEASURE TO SCHOLARS.

To be obtained at:—

Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Limited, Hongkong, Shanghai Yokohama and Singapore.

Messrs. W. BREWER & Co., Hongkong and Shanghai.

Messrs. TSUI MAN KOK, Hongkong.

Messrs. MAN YU TONG, Hongkong.

Wholesale? W. HIBBERDINE, 50, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

DURING the EASTER MEETING, TIFFIN
will be obtainable on the RANGE
MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 12th April, 1900.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-
ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the
Office of the Company No. 9 Praya Central
on SATURDAY, 28th April, 1900, at NOON,
when the subjoined Resolution which was
passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting
held on the 12th April, 1900 will be submitted
for confirmation.

RESOLUTION.

That the Capital of the Company be increased
to 1,000,000 by the creation and issue of
50,000 New Shares of \$10, each fully paid
up.

SHEWAN, TOMEY & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 12th April, 1900.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

No. 136.

THE following Particulars and Conditions of
Sale of Crown Land, by Public Auction,
to be held at the Offices of the Public Works
Department, on

WEDNESDAY,

the 18th day of April, 1900, at 3 P.M., are
published for general information.

By Command,

Acting Colonial Secretary,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 31st March, 1900.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

GLEN LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM MIDDLEBROOK, LONDON AND
STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"GLENSHIEL"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees
of Cargo by her, are hereby informed that their
Goods are being landed at their risk into the
Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf
and Godown Co., Ltd, at Kowloon, where each
consignment will be sorted out mark by mark,
and delivery can be obtained as soon as the
Goods are landed.

Optional cargo will be carried on unless
instructions are given to the contrary before
4 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 18th instant, will
be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

All ship damaged packages must be left in the
Godowns, and a certificate of the damage
obtained from the Godown Co. within ten days
of steamer's arrival here, after which no claims will
be recognised.

McGREGOR BROS. & GOW.

Hongkong, 12th April, 1900.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"JAPAN"

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, PORT SAID,
SUEZ AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named
vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are
being landed and placed at their risk in the
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each
consignment will be sorted out mark by mark
and delivered can be obtained as soon as the
Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless
instructions are given to the contrary before
2 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 18th instant, at 4
P.M. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in
any case whatever.

All damaged Packages must be left in the
Godowns and a certificate of the damage
obtained from the Godown Company within ten
days after the Vessel's arrival here, after which no
claims will be

lands round the coast, but that the request was refused. Shortly after the Japanese Minister at Seoul received a communication from the Korean Government to the effect that the post offices which were established and are being maintained by Japan in the principal cities in Korea should be abolished. The reason advanced by the Korean Government for this extraordinary communication, or request, was that Korea had now joined the International Postal Union, and as the postal arrangements had considerably improved it was unnecessary for Japan to continue maintaining post offices there. Upon being communicated with, the Japanese Government refused this request, upon the grounds that the postal system of Korea did not justify the abolition of the Japanese offices there.

That Russian influence in Korea is slowly but surely gaining ground cannot be denied, and though one does not like to spread alarmist views, yet it is apparent that it is distinctly within the bounds of possibility that the small kingdom will prove a stumbling block in the way of peace in the East. For some days past the Japanese papers have been commenting freely upon impending complications between Russia and Japan over Korean affairs, and not, apparently, without some grounds, of course it is impossible to know what has really transpired, unless one can get official information, but it is evident that Korean affairs have been receiving the utmost attention from Japanese Ministers. Secret meetings have been held; important documents and maps have been consulted, with Marshal Oyama, General Katsura (Minister of War), Admiral Yamamoto (Minister of the Navy) in attendance, and everything points to there having been something bordering upon a crisis in the relations between Japan and Russia over Korean affairs.

A few days ago one of the vernacular journals stated that from information derived from a most trust-worthy source, Russia's object was to obtain an uninterrupted line between Vladivostok and Port Arthur and Talienshan, and to achieve this object she wished to obtain a lease of Deer Island, which is situated opposite Fusian. So long as Japan commands the Tsushima Channel the naval power of Russia is comparatively weak, because the possession of that channel practically shuts off Vladivostok and considerably diminishes the value of Port Arthur and Talienshan, as in case of emergency communication between the latter ports and Vladivostok could be cut off. The occupation of Deer Island by Russia, however, would give her the same value and importance as would the occupation of Fusian. Other reports credit Russia with a desire to occupy Koje Island, while others again believed that Quelpart was Russia's real objective.

Whatever may have been Russia's real objective there can be no doubt that she'd done her utmost, short of proceeding to extreme measures, to attain her ends, and it is fortunate that the Korean Government (largely influenced, without doubt, by the Japanese Government) was firm in refusing the northern power's first demand. The matter has been amicably settled for the present by the purchase by Russia of land outside the Masampo settlement. Foreigners may purchase any land within a radius of ten miles from the Settlement, so of course exception cannot be taken to this arrangement. As is well known, however, Russia always plays a waiting game. She has succeeded in occupying practically the whole of north China without firing a shot, and those who have studied Muscovite diplomacy may well doubt whether the Korean question is definitely settled, for when Russia has an object in view she is extremely patient, but very persevering, and almost invariably succeeds sooner or later in attaining her ends. Japan's fine but practically untried navy may yet be put to the test before the Korean question is definitely settled.

The tenders for the Formosa camphor monopoly were opened on the 23rd ult. at Taipei, the result being that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. secured the contract. There were only three competitors, viz., the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., and Mr. Yokoyama. The lowest tender was to be accepted, and Mr. Yokoyama's tender was a fraction over yen 12 below the price of the foreign firm; but for some reason he abandoned his right to the monopoly and Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. secured the contract, which runs for three years, their quotation being yen 102.217 per picul. Guaranteed money has to be deposited in the shape of Formosa Undertaking Bonds to the amount of yen 1,800,000.

WRECK OF THE "TOKIO MARU"

FOUR PASSENGERS DROWNED.

KOBE, 3d April. News has been received here from Chefoo that the N. Y. K. steamer *Tokio Maru*, which left here on the 22nd ult. for Chefoo, Taku, Newchwang, etc., has been wrecked on Miao-tao Island, in the Gulf of Pechili. The news was received with a feeling akin to consternation in shipping circles where Captain Jones' reputation as a skilful and careful navigator is too well known to call for statement. Miao-tao Island (there is a Strait too of the same name) is the southernmost of the group of islands lying off the most northerly point of the Shantung Peninsula, and is right in the fairway of steamers bound from Chefoo to Taku and vice versa. Recognising the island as a source of danger to steamers the Imperial Maritime Customs erected a lighthouse there the other day. The locality, if we mistake not, is noted for its heavy fog at this time of year and it is supposed the disaster was brought about by a fog. One of the messengers received here states that all on board were saved, and we therefore mistrust the report in circulation here to-day to the effect that 8 or 9 lives have been lost. Whether the steamer is a total loss seems uncertain. The news was taken on to Chefoo by a passing steamer and thence wired to Japan. We trust later intelligence will be of a more reassuring nature and that the fine vessel will not prove a total loss. The *Tokio* was built in Scotland in 1884 for the order of the Mitsui Bishi M. S. Co., and was 1,360 tons net, 2,194 gross, classed 100 A1 at Lloyd's. She ran on the Shanghai line where her splendid sea-going qualities made her a favourite vessel with an immense number of passengers.

4th April. The Nippon Yuzen Kaisha have now received definite information as to the loss of steamer the *Tokio Maru* near Chefoo. The rumours that there had been loss of life are confirmed, although not, we hope not, to the full extent. Four persons were drowned it seems—two Japanese and two Chinese. One of the Japanese was a second-class passenger, Kawamata Hanakata, a petty military officer from Tokio. The other Japanese was in the steerage, and is supposed to be one Saba, who embarked at one of the intermediate ports. The two Chinese who have been lost were in the steerage. We gather from the particular account by the N.Y.K. that all others on board were saved. There were five or six foreign passengers, chiefly ladies from Europe, who joined the steamer at Kobe. None of them are

known in Kobe. As to the position of the steamer it seems unlikely that there can be much hope of saving her. The *Ejikiki Maru* on the same run as the *Tokio*, has, we understand, been ordered to the scene to stand by the wrecked vessel. She left Kobe some ten days ago and orders were sent to her at one of the intermediate ports.—*Herald*.

ALLEGED GREAT EMBEZZLEMENT IN KOBE.

KOBE, April 3d. Inouye Kasaku, a clerk employed by Mr. Kitagawa Yohei, wholesale Cotton Merchant, Kitagori-dori, Itchome, was arrested yesterday on a charge of obtaining money to the amount of Yen 175,000, by forging cheques with his employer's signature. The forged presented the fraudulent cheques to the Formosan Bank and Sumitomo Bank and has drawn the amount in several sums since February. The man confessed at the police station that he put the whole amount into the share and rice markets. The authorities are searching for the man's accomplice as it is thought he could not have lost so large an amount in course of a month or two. It is also reported the man was in the employment of Mr. Kitagawa for a number of years and bore a very good name.—*Herald*.

RUSSIA IN COREA.

THE REPORTED WITHDRAWAL OF RUSSIA.

KOBE, April 2d. It is reported that the course decided on by the Imperial Japanese Government relating to the Masampo affair was to demand the lease of a certain of Quelpart Island if the Korean Government granted the Russian demand; and instructions to this effect were to be despatched to the Japanese Minister to Seoul. The instructions were not however forwarded as Russia has withdrawn her demand.—*Herald*.

Soul, April 1st.—Russia has obtained permission to buy a tract of land not over to Korean miles in area, at the entrance to Masampo, and the affair is concluded. The land first demanded by Russia measured over to Korean miles outside the concession of Port Arthur and Talienshan, as in case of emergency communication between the latter ports and Vladivostok could be cut off. The occupation of Deer Island by Russia, however, would give her the same value and importance as would the occupation of Fusian. Other reports credit Russia with a desire to occupy Koje Island, while others again believed that Quelpart was Russia's real objective.

In connection with this telegram it is understood that the tract of land now to be taken by Russia by purchase lies within the limits in which it has hitherto been allowed to foreigners to hold land. It is believed therefore that the real status of the new Russian possession is that she will choose a tract within the boundary and the Korean Government will buy it up for her by the holders. Japanese rights at Masampo will not be damaged and the Korean Government has also secured that the section allotted to foreigners at Masampo shall not be encroached on by Russia.—*Japan Mail*.

RUSSIA'S WITHDRAWAL.

April 3d. To-day's intelligence bears out what was indicated yesterday—that a settlement has practically been brought about of the complication in Corea. Russia it seems, is satisfied with the right to purchase a certain area of and adjoining the concession at Masampo. It is made clear—or as clear as possible in the absence of official announcements—that Russia is driven back owing to the expected pressure of a power or powers behind Corea. The Japanese press would have us believe that power Japan; probably it was the prospect of a Japanese protest having the backing of England that turned back the Russian advance. It is impossible to believe that this incident—if it is to be assumed as having reached an end—terminates the possibilities of trouble in Corea. It is rather to be anticipated that Russia's action shows the determined that Corea shall ultimately be part of her sphere in Eastern Asia. Japan will be far more gullible than her repudiation would argue if she esteems this the finale of all causes of difficulty in Corea.

The Tokio *jiji*, one of the most moderate and reasonable of Japanese journals, writes on the matter yesterday as follows:—Russia demanded a tract of land near Masampo and the situation was serious as she pressed that demand. The latest telegram states that Russia has withdrawn her demand, having met a denial at the hands of the Korean Government; and that she will be content with some on the skirts of the Masampo concession. The land within Corean miles (about 3 English miles) outside that concession can be sold to any foreigner at the option of the landowners. The independence of Corea is the guarantee of the peace of the Far East and it would inevitably endanger that peace if the independence of Corea were threatened. This is why Japan has tried to preserve Corea and it was on this question that the China-Japan war was fought. If any power take possession of an important tract of land in Corea it would open the road to the collapse of Corea and the consequence would be serious. If therefore Russia were to carry out her first object, the result would have been disastrous. The firm refusal of the Korean Government and the quiet withdrawal of Russia has saved the peace of the Far East which was threatened. We hope the independence of Corea will be more and more assured and the peace of the Far East thus secured indefinitely.—*Kobe Herald*.

VIEWS OF THE PROGRESSIST PARTY.

KOBE, April 4th. A Japanese contemporary gives a statement of reasonable views on the Corean question held by Mr. Oishi, ex-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and a leading progressist. His statement was:—Wei-hai-wei is Great Britain's base in China and represents the centre of influence in the central part of the Empire. Kiao-chao, Port Arthur and Talienshan are the other day. The locality, if we mistake not, is noted for its heavy fog at this time of year and it is supposed the disaster was brought about by a fog. One of the messengers received here states that all on board were saved, and we therefore mistrust the report in circulation here to-day to the effect that 8 or 9 lives have been lost. Whether the steamer is a total loss seems uncertain. The news was taken on to Chefoo by a passing steamer and thence wired to Japan. We trust later intelligence will be of a more reassuring nature and that the fine vessel will not prove a total loss. The *Tokio* was built in Scotland in 1884 for the order of the Mitsui Bishi M. S. Co., and was 1,360 tons net, 2,194 gross, classed 100 A1 at Lloyd's. She ran on the Shanghai line where her splendid sea-going qualities made her a favourite vessel with an immense number of passengers.

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THE HOKKAIDO GOLD FIELDS.

Increased attention is being directed to the Hokkaido gold fields. Lease rights are being freely exchanged. The mining district is not limited to Kitami province. Oshima, Hitaka, Teshio and Ishikari provinces are also producing gold. The total mileage of river beds granted for mining purposes is over 1,400 Japanese miles and the area covers 70,000 cho. The number of men engaged in the fields was about 7,000 last year but it is estimated that it will be over 40,000 this year. The best results last year were obtained at Yesashi, Bechan province, the beds of the Usoannai and Bechan tributaries of the Tobetsugawa, and the Pankai and Toinaki, tributaries of the Horobetsugawa were most productive. The section worked by Messrs. Hirotanigumi at the Usoannai bed and that worked by Messrs. Hirika Wagumi at the Pankai bed were the largest there. The gold got in these districts must have been at least 200 kan in all and it may have been over 300 kan. Nuggets weighing from 40 momme to 74 momme were got. Nuggets weighing from one momme to 10 momme were picked up quite frequently. A certain foreigner at Yokohama lately bought 7 cho of the river bed at the Usoannai for 7,000 yen and it is stated he will work the mine with some experienced California miners, putting 40,000 yen into machinery, etc. The majority of the men on the fields at present are coolies and the methods of working are very irregular and primitive. The employment of machinery should greatly increase the output. It is reported that the Bank of Japan will open an agency at Yesashi to buy gold.—*Kobe Herald*.

Mr. Hand, the mining engineer of the company which works the Pinggo mine in North Celebes, has been interviewed by the *Batavia Nieuwsblad*. The interview shows that Mr. Hand finds that gold-mining in Celebes has promising prospects. It is any case the outlook, in his opinion, is no worse than that of other gold-producing lands, where he had been employed at times. He admits that mining in that quarter has now adverse fate to contend with. But this does not matter, because such is the usual experience on starting a new industry such as mining in undeveloped countries.

CREMATION AS A "COMFORT."

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Scottish Burial Reform and Cremation Society in London recently, Professor Sir Henry Littlejohn, of Edinburgh, alluded to the condition of graveyards in England. For the past forty years he had been engaged in examining church yards at the instance of the Government, and their condition, he declared, was disgraceful. The interment of the dead should be done municipally, he thought, or under the regis of Government, so as to prevent it being made a matter for private enterprise. He knew one man who had so many shares in cemeteries that was said he would make a profit off his own funeral. To him (Sir Henry) it was a perfect comfort to know that he was to be cremated.

MINING IN CELEBES.

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NOT ANDA.

CALENDAR.

APRIL.

Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1893.

Barometer 32.05

Thermometer 62.0

Humidity 83.0

Rainfall 4.08

TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.

On date at On date at

10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Barometer 29.88 29.80

Temperature 79 80

Humidity 82 79

Rainfall —

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Intimations.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY, LIMITED will be held at the Company's OFFICES, No. 2, Connaught Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of April, 1900, at 12.15 o'clock in the Afternoon when the SUBJOINED RESOLUTIONS will be proposed.

Should the said Resolution be passed by the required majority they will be submitted for confirmation as SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS to a SECOND EXTRAORDINARY MEETING which will be subsequently convened.

1.—That the Capital of the Company be increased from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 by the creation of 10,000 New Shares of \$50 each.

2.—That such New-Shares be issued at a Premium of \$25 per Share and be allotted to the Shareholders of the Company in the proportion of One New Share for every Two Shares now held by them.

3.—That the Amount due for the New Shares be called up as follows, viz:—

\$50 per Share on the 1st July, 1900, to rank for Six months Dividend out of the Profits of the Year 1900, and the remaining \$25 per Share on the 1st October, 1900.

Dated the 20th March, 1900.

By Order of the Board,

EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary.

410b] THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Company's Hotel on TUESDAY, the 24th April, 1900, at 12 O'clock (Noon), when the Subjoined resolution which was passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 27th day of March, 1900, will be submitted for confirmation as a special resolution.

"That the New regulations already approved by this meeting, and for the purpose of identification subscribed by the Chairman thereof, he, and those who are, hereby approve, and that such regulations be, and the same are, hereby adopted as the regulations of the Company to the exclusion of all the existing regulations thereof."

A copy of the proposed new regulations may be seen at the Company's Office, and can be obtained by application to the Under-signed:

Dated Hongkong, the 2nd day of April, 1900.

By Order of the Board,

C. MOONEY,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 2d April, 1900. [430b]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a Meeting of the Board of Directors of the above Company, held at the Registered Office of the Company, Queen's Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong, on Tuesday, the Twenty Seventh day of March, 1900, the following RESOLUTION were passed.

1.—That in pursuance of the Provisions of the Special Resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company held on the 7th and confirmed on the 27th March instant, and since duly registered, the sum of \$1,250,000 be withdrawn from the Reserved Fund and be carried as of the 2nd July next, to the Credit of Capital Account, each Share being credited with a sum of \$25 as paid up thereon in addition to the sum of \$50 now standing to the credit of each Share.

2.—That the Balance of \$25 per Share of the Unpaid Capital of the Company be called up, and that a CALL be, and is hereby made of \$25 per Share upon all Shares of the Company, and that the Shareholders be requested to pay the same to the Company's Bankers, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, at their Premises, Queen's Road Central, on or before the 2nd day of July, A.D. 1900.

Shareholders are hereby requested to pay according.

And Notice is also given that, in accordance with Article 34 of the Company's Articles of Association, interest will be charged at from the said 2nd day of July, 1900, at the Rate of \$12 per cent. per Annum, upon all Calls remaining unpaid after the 9th day of July, 1900, up to the actual dates of payment of the same.

By Order of the Board,

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1900. [435b]

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that SCRIP NUMBER 362 for 100 SHARES of this Company, numbered 7165 to 7174, and dated the 20th May, 1893, in the name of FUNG WA CHUN, of Hongkong, having been LOST, a New Scrip for the same will be issued after One month from the Date hereof, and the Original Scrip will be considered by the Company as Null and Void; and all persons are hereby warned against accepting or negotiating the same.

By Order,

C. MOONEY,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1900. [412b]

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that SCRIP NUMBER 240 for 15 SHARES of the Company, numbered 2804/28018, in the name of PAUL JORDAN, Esquire, of Hongkong, having been LOST, a New Scrip for the same will be issued after One month from the Date hereof, and the Original Scrip will be considered by the Company as Null and Void; and all persons are hereby warned against accepting or negotiating the same.

By Order,

SHEWAN, TOMES CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 29th March, 1900. [409b]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that SCRIP NUMBER 812 for 8 SHARES of the Company, numbered 1341/13421, in the name of WILLIAM MONARCH BURNSIDE ARTHUR, Esquire, of Hongkong, having been LOST, a New Scrip for the same will be issued after One Month from the date hereof, and the Original Scrip will be considered by the Company as null and void, and all persons are hereby warned against accepting or negotiating the same.

SHEWAN, TOMES CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1900. [474b]

Intimations.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.
THE "CHEUNG FAT" FERRY CO., LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies Ordinances, whereby the Liability of each Shareholder is limited to the Amount of his Shares.

CAPITAL \$100,000
In £1,000 fully paid up Shares of \$25 each of which 1,600 Shares will be offered for Subscription.

Terms for Subscription: £5 on Application £10 on Allotment.

Balance at call in Instalments, One Month's Notice to be given in respect of each Instalment called up.

Applications for Shares accompanied by a Deposit of \$5 per Share must be sent to the NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED, on or before 15th of April, 1900.

For Forms of Application, apply to the General Managers.

Board of Directors:

Mr. LUO KOON-TING or Kwang Wing Sang

Firm.

CHAN KAI-MING of Opium Farm.

HU SHUN-CHUN of Opium Farm.

TAM TZE-KONG of Chai On Insurance Co., Ltd.

CHAN HE-WAN of Chai On Insurance Co., Ltd.

LAI SHU-TUNG of Tin Shing Shop.

YUNG CHOW-PONG of Deutsch Asiatische Bank.

TO YING-TING of Lauts, Wegener & Co.

J. T. LAUTS of Lauts, Wegener & Co.

Bankers:

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Soldiers:

Messrs. JOHNSTON, STOKES AND MASTER, General Managers:

Messrs. LAUTS, WEGENER & Co.

The Company has been formed for the purpose of carrying passengers between Hongkong and Yau Ma Tei and such other places as may from time to time appear to promise satisfactory results and assist in meeting the demands of the growing passenger traffic from land to Hongkong and the East and West River of Canton.

Arrangements have been made to commence business at once with a Ferry Service between Yau Ma Tei and Hongkong.

Hongkong, 4th April, 1900. [447b]

INDIA'S FAMINE FUND

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The dates of these Entertainments will be THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY, April, 19th 20th and 21st,

Booking Office will be Open on Tuesday, 17th April, at 10 A.M.

Hongkong, 11th April, 1900. [478b]

FOR SALE AT TIEN TSIN.

NORTH CHINA.

LARGE BUSINESS PREMISES on the TAKU ROAD within easy reach of the Bund. The Premises consist of a Six-storied Bungalow, Three Large Godowns, one with a double story and that roof suitable for drying purposes, Comptoir's Quarters and Offices, one Brick House, several Out-buildings and all necessary adjuncts to business. One Godown contains a Hydraulic Press, Engine, &c. For particulars apply to

J. T. SKOTTOWE,

Land, Estate, and General Commission Agents,

Tientsin, North China.

Hongkong, 9th April, 1900. [466b]

GERMAN SCHOOL.

THE SUMMER TERM will commence on MONDAY, the 23rd instant, a.c. There are a few vacancies, and parents desirous to send their Children will please communicate with the undersigned.

PAUL BREWITT,

Hon. Secretary,

Hongkong, 10th April, 1900. [473b]

SINGING.

M. R. A. LEC MARSH,

Late PRINCIPAL BARITONE of THE ROYAL CARL ROSEN OPERA CO., THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN; ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY, and the Principal London and Provincial Concerts.

Pupil of SIGNOR RANDEGGER,

Begs to announce that he is now prepared to give

LESSONS IN SINGING

and

VOICE PRODUCTION

to a limited number of Pupils.

Terms of Application.

Office:

Corner of Queen's Road and Ice House Lane.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1900. [472b]

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

FIRE, MARINE AND TYPHOON.

Capital \$25,000,000.

Total Assets exceed \$45,000,000.

Total Annual income exceed \$10,000,000.

THE OFFICES of the HONGKONG

BRANCH of the above Company have

This Day been REMOVED to No. 7, DES VOUX ROAD, CENTRAL, (late Praya Central),

First floor, lately occupied by the NIPPON

YUSEN KAISHA.

W. H. T. DAVIS,

Local Manager.

Hongkong, 31st March, 1900. [420b]

Notice of Firms.

NOTICE.

MY INTEREST AND RESPONSIBILITY in the Firm of Messrs. DAVID SASSOON & CO. CEASE from this Date.

FLORA SOLOMON DAVID SASSOON.

Bombay, 16th February, 1900. [413b]

SALAMANDER FIRE INSURANCE CO.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED, having been appointed AGENTS for the above COMPANY, are prepared to accept Risks against FIRE at CURRENT RATES.

HOTZ, S'JACOB & CO.

Hongkong, 31st March, 1900. [422b]

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned beg to give Notice that they are CLOSING their BUSINESS in HONGKONG and all Matters connected with the FIRM and with MR. E. R. BELLIOS should be referred to MR. R. C. WILCOX of BEACONFIELD ARCADE.

SHEWAN, TOMES CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1900. [474b]

NOTICE.

HONGKONG, 10th April, 1900. [474b]

RUSSIA, PERSIA, AND MONGOLIA.

A STATEMENT BY THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.

ST. PETERSBURG, February 6th.

In comments on the loan to Persia by the Russian papers and financial society it is said, in its political aspect, as directed against British influence, and pregnant with possibilities and consequences of enormous importance to Russia and corresponding disadvantage to England. This opinion is based on the stipulations obliging Persia to pay off the English loan and depriving her of the liberty of entering into any other foreign pecuniary engagement. The latter restriction may be compared to the Russian Convention binding the Shah's Government not to allow the construction of railways until the end of the century. A strange way of showing the disinterested solicitude boasted of in Russian journals for the development and progress of Persia! The consensus of opinion seems to be that the conditions of the loan, so far as at present disclosed, place Persia entirely at Russia's mercy in the immediate future, and if this has not yet been seen in England it is no doubt owing to the all-absorbing concern for the state of affairs in South Africa. It was for the very reason that the news was published here on the eve of the meeting of Parliament, so as to attract as little attention as possible, the matter having been ripe for signature many months before. It is very doubtful if the British Government, as stated in a telegram to day from London, were confidentially informed of the arrangement in advance. It is quite certain that no one here outside the Persian Embassy and the official and financial circle directly concerned knew anything at all about it, although there had been vague rumours of some loan in connection with Persian railway schemes. In fact, the Persian Minister of Finance to keep the matter secret, which he did by denying all knowledge of any negotiations whatever down to the very last moment. There is no doubt that negotiations were begun at Teheran a long time ago, but difficulties, it is said, were raised at the instigation of the British representative.

The fact that the business has now been accomplished by Russia is regarded as undeniable proof of England's complete loss of influence at the Shah's Court, in spite of the fact that the Imperial Bank of Persia is an English institution. The failure of attempts to obtain a comparatively small sum of a couple of million pounds in England is attributed, as usual, to the repugnance of the British Government to give any kind of guarantee or support. The same complaint was made at the time of the loan to China. The sum of money in itself is insignificant, but the conditions cause everybody to regard the loan as another feather in the cap of M. Witte, whose far-reaching influence on foreign affairs in this way is undisputed. His policy in regard to Persia is analogous to that inaugurated in China by the establishment of the Russo-Chinese Bank, which gave birth to the more important Eastern Chinese Railway Company. Russia's advantageous position in China to-day is due to M. Witte and the able men gathered round him working through these institutions, rather than to the occupation of Port Arthur, which was considered a premature cause of friction that the Minister of Finance would have gladly avoided. The Loan Bank of Persia, which was founded by one or two of M. Witte's able co-operators of the Jewish race, is now nothing more nor less than a branch of the State Bank of Russia, and therefore the loan is practically a Government one. It is stated that the Government Savings Bank, which now has on deposit a total of about 400,000,000 rubles, will absorb a great proportion, if not all, of the Persian bonds as a good investment. The bonds to be issued to the public under the guarantee of the Russian Government, if and whenever that course may be considered necessary, will of course only represent the amount of the loan remaining unredeemed by Persia at that particular moment. I refer to this, simply because the last paragraph on this point in the official announcement does not seem to have been clearly understood.

I may here mention that the Russo-Chinese Bank is already extending its activity to Mongolia, which, being situated north of the Great Wall and pursuant to the reference to that boundary in the Anglo-Russian Agreement, is considered to be as much a part of Russia's recognised and exclusive sphere of influence as the province of Manchuria. The predominance of Russia in Mongolia, however, where Chinese authority is little else than a shadow, has been a patent fact for years. The late General Prejevalsky, with his numerous armed expeditions into that country, quite overawed both the Chinese and the nomads, and after distributing everywhere portraits of the Russian Imperial family, he declared that the summons of a single Cossack was sufficient to bring the whole population down on their knees before the Great White Tsar. The new Russian business in Mongolia is that of gold mining, and Russian experts who have lately been prospecting state that the precious metal is to be found in very large quantities. Before many more years have passed the Russian plans in this vast region may surprise incredulous persons like those who scorned the warning of approaching events in China uttered from St. Petersburg before even the Chino-Japanese war had come to a close.

The great meeting of representative Kieghiz and traders from Chinese Mongolia and Russian Siberia, a curious assembly that now takes place every five years, has recently been held on the Russian frontier of the Seven River province under the presidency of the Russian Consul of Chuguchak. There was a numerous attendance on this occasion of the headmen of kindred tribes of the borderland of Russia and China, the subjects of both Empires, and traders from the nearest towns. Many speeches were made and all disputes and quarrels amicably settled.

THE INDIAN BUDGET IN STERLING.

The *Rangoon Gazette* says.—It is a new departure to have the Indian Budget Statement issued in sterling; and those of us who remember the long period during which the sterling value of the rupee declined from two shillings, not steadily but with violent fluctuations which upset all calculations, the new departure seems a happy augury. We may now reckon on a fairly stable exchange, and we know what our rupees are worth, which we certainly did not know when exchange was fluctuating wildly at intervals, but always gravitating downwards on the whole, as it did from about 1873 to 1893.

Even in the very early nineties the establishment of a stable exchange seemed an almost insoluble problem. All sorts of solutions were propounded, mostly of a wildly impracticable character, but except the cranks who put forth these nostrums, few persons, even eight or ten years ago, would have believed that before the century was out, we should have a Budget statement issued in sterling. Yet, such is the case. Under the pressure of necessity, the apparently insoluble problem has been solved, and Government has no longer to face every year the risks of a heavy fall in exchange. For about twenty

years that was a disturbing element in all its calculations, more erratic and even more difficult to guard against than famines.

THE GERMANS IN THE FAR EAST.

The following notes of the French Consul-General at Hamburg, addressed to the French Government, may be of interest:—England still occupies first rank in the Chinese ports, leaving all other nations far behind. In 1898 English ships transported over half (*ad valorem*) of the merchandise unloaded in these ports, whilst China for the same year accounts only for a third of the general tariff. Japan contributes with 3 per cent. and the United States with 1½ per cent. Altogether, European mercantile marines represent 62 per cent. of the movement in Chinese ports, and, if England is left out of consideration, the other European nations are concerned with only a tenth of the general commerce. Nevertheless the relative importance of German navigation is being manifested. It amounts to 55 per cent. of the movement of the European States, Great Britain excluded, and, taking into account this power, one-eleventh of the European trade exchanges. Consequently, the German marine ranks now immediately after Great Britain's, being followed, but at a considerable distance, by France, Sweden, and Norway. In the coasting trade German shippers are also drawing large profits. According to the latest returns the German flag has made 1,001 voyages between Chinese ports, representing over 10,000,000 tons, besides 380 journeys between India and China, 325 between India and Japan, 105 between the Russian possessions and Korea, and, finally, 134 coasting journeys on the Japanese seaboard.

RUSSIAN FLEET IN THE EAST.

A Daily Telegraph correspondent writes from St. Petersburg that this year, at Port Arthur there will be the guardship *Slatich* and the torpedo flotilla, and, in the Pacific Ocean, the following fleet will be maintained—

	Tons.
<i>Peterhoffskiy</i> , battleship	10,960
<i>Czar Petri</i>	8,830
<i>Kavkaz</i> , armoured cruiser	10,500
<i>Admiral Nachitskiy</i> , armoured cruiser	8,324
<i>Admiral Kornilov</i> , second-class cruiser	5,850
<i>Dmitri Donskoi</i> , armoured cruiser	5,850
<i>Ugolnik</i> , armoured cruiser	5,850
<i>Raskovskiy</i> , corvette	1,739
<i>Zhatkovskiy</i> , corvette	1,736
<i>Gromovskiy</i> , armoured gunboat	1,500
<i>Glazkov</i> , gunboat	601
<i>Korlets</i> , gunboat	3,213
<i>Neandorff</i>	1,416
<i>Vladimir</i> , torpedo gunboat	400
<i>Galdamak</i> , torpedo gunboat	400
And a torpedo gunboat <i>Asiya</i> .	

In addition, however, the Russian Pacific Squadron is to be reinforced this year by the undermentioned ships:—

	Tons.
<i>Poltava</i> , battleship	10,960
<i>Poltava</i> , cruiser	6,632
<i>Amur</i> , transport	6,500
<i>Emesa</i>	

And the torpedo-boat destroyers, *Nit*, *Skali*, *Dzhupi*, *Kuznetz*, *Forst*, *Staritsa*, *Soni*, and *Ustler*, (of 312 10 tons), and the standard-class torpedo boat *Kralj*.

The armoured cruiser *Pampal Azova*, 6,675 tons, which is at present in the Pacific, will return to Russia.

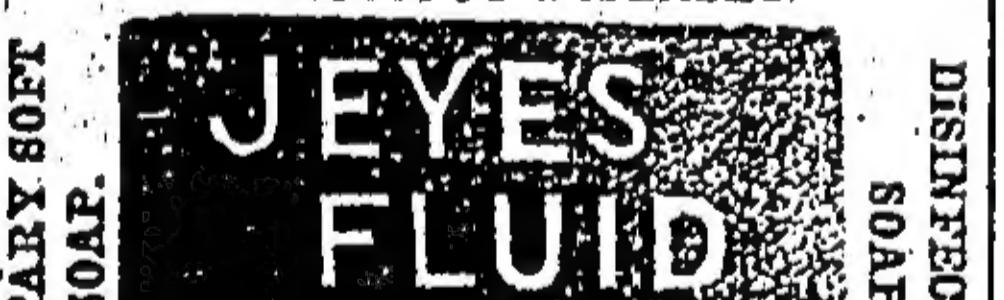
THE COST OF WARSHIPS.

In view of the great and increasing naval expenditure of foreign powers, Engineering directs attention to the purchasing value of the output, and shows that Britain has a great advantage in the less cost of construction. Our latest battleships, with all modern expensive equipment, cost us, complete with guns, £71 odd per ton of displacement, which is as fair a basis of comparison as it is possible to get. The battleships which the French are now building, and those they propose to lay down, certainly not superior to our own as far as the prospective design shows, cost £90 to £95 per ton displacement. Germany's earlier turret ships cost £72, and Russia's new ships about £60. Taking armoured cruisers, to our *Cressey* class are cost about £64 10s per ton displacement, and the cost of the corresponding ships of the other Powers except pretty much in the same proportion as with battleships. The comparison might be continued to other classes, but it may be taken generally that French ships are about 30 per cent. costlier, and Russian ships 40 per cent. dearer, than British ships of equal power. In other words, for the money voted for a battleship for France or Russia, we can build a 5,000-ton cruiser also; or we can build four battleships for France's three, all being equal, and six for Russia's four. If, add Engineering, we spend the same as both nations together, we get ten for their seven ships. This, however, is a condition which, with its experience, is nullifying, although perhaps slowly, so we must continue to spend more, even if we get more for our money.

Intimations.

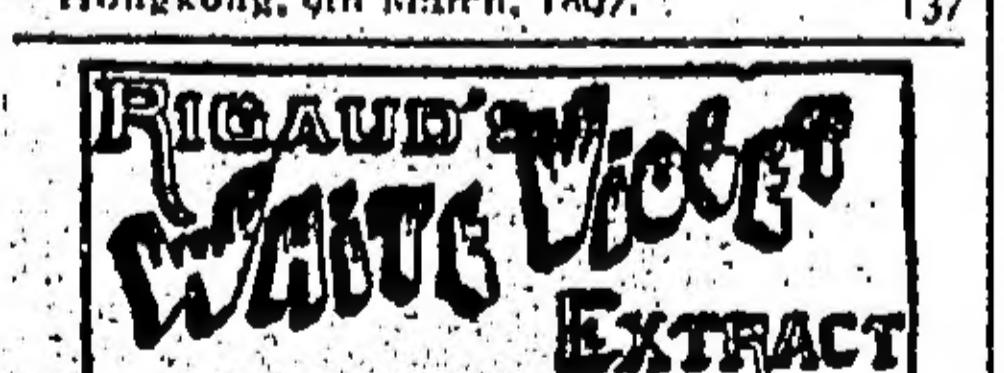
NOTICE.

THE BEST PREVENTIVE OF ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.



AVOID ALL RISK OF OUTBREAK BY ITS USE.
W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.,
Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1897.

[37]



RIGAUD'S
EXTRACT
DISINFECTANT

This fugitive and delicate perfume is persistent as an extract for the handkerchief while as a Soap and Powder, it has been adopted by the most refined French Society.

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ANNUAL CHEAP SALE.
FINE JAPANESE GOODS,
during 20 Days only, com-
mencing from 25th March.

D. NOMA,
No. 12, Beaconsfield Avenue,
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Hongkong, 26th March, 1900.

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LONDON, NEW YORK, BOMBAY,
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M. FUJISE,
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Hongkong, 11th December, 1899.

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FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM
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P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUOR SCOTCH
WHISKY, &c.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK
AT
REASONABLE PRICES.
Hongkong, 14th May, 1896.

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.
Neither the CAPTAINS, the AGENTS, nor the
OWNERS will be RESPONSIBLE for any
DEBT contracted by the Officers or the Crews
of the following Vessels during their stay in
Hongkong Harbours—
DIRIGO, Amer. ship, Goodwin—Standard Oil
Co.
GEO. T. RAY, British ship, Spicer.—Siemens
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Co.

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& Co.

IRIS, British bark, W. Wright—Siemens &
Co.

VISITORS AT THE HONGKONG
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Aitken, Mr. J. H.
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Angus, Mrs. John
Anthony, Mr. J.
Armstrong, Lieut. A.
Bailey, Mr. W. S.
Bent, Mr. B.
Best, Mr. C. H.
Black, Mr. F. W.
Black, Mr. Sid.
Blackburn, Com. R. N.
Brooks, Mrs.
Brown, Mr. F.
Brown, Mr. J. W.
Butler, Mr. and Mrs.
Butler, Miss.
Carter, Mr. H. B.
Cartwright, Miss.
Clark, Dr. and Mrs. F.
Collins, Mr. A.
Conor, Mr. Geo.
Dawson, Comdr.
Deutsche, Mr. P. C.
Drum, Miss.
Dunne, Mr. and Mrs.
Filippini, Mr. and Mrs.
Frank, Mr.
Freeman, Mr. C.
Frobis, Mr. Geo. E.
Gillchrist, Mr. D.
Gillard, Mr. H.
Glendinning, Mr. H.
Goddard, Capt.
Gramatzki, Mr. Von,
Griffith, Major.
Hall, Mr. R.
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Hay, Mr. and Mrs. E.
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John, Mrs. G. St. and
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Kidwell, Mr. John
Kinghorn, Mr.
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Lara, Mr. F.
Leggett, Mr. E. C.
Ley, Mr. L. A.
Liblau, Mr.

Lynne, Lieut. and Mrs.
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Mackillop, Mr. A.
Macmillan, Mr. A. C.
Marsh, Mr. Alec
Massow, Mrs. & maid
Mayston, Mr. J. Y.
McCall, Mr. J. S.
McLeod, Mr. & Mrs. E.
Merecki, Mr. H.
Mergelynick, Mr. L.
Montgomery, Mrs. and
maid.
Murphy, Mr. E. O.
Neirop, Mr. Van
O'Neill, Mr. J. J.
Parfitt, Mr. W.
Paton, Mr. J. W.
Redgrave, Mr. S.
Reeves, Mr.
Richardson, Mr. G. E.
Rigby, Capt. G.
Robins, Mr. S. J.
Rouge, Mr.
Ryan, R.A.M.C., Lt.
Col.
Schmid, Mr. B.
Sergeant, Mr. B. W.
Sharp, Mr. & Mrs. E. H.
Shentor, Mr. E. C.
Simmins, Mr. H.
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Hamilton
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Stickney, Mr. & servant
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Zuniga, Mr. J. M. de

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Massow, Mrs. & maid
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Montgomery, Mrs. and
maid.
Murphy, Mr. E. O.
Neirop, Mr. Van
O'Neill, Mr. J. J.
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Paton, Mr. J. W.
Redgrave, Mr. S.
Reeves, Mr.
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Rouge, Mr.
Ryan, R.A.M.C., Lt.
Col.
Schmid, Mr. B.
Sergeant, Mr. B. W.
Sharp, Mr. & Mrs. E. H.
Shentor, Mr. E. C.
Simmins, Mr. H.
Smythe, Mr. A. J.
Hamilton
Stewart, Mr. E. H.
Stickney, Mr. & servant
Sutcliffe, Mr. and Mrs.
Tour, Mr. E. de la
Trimble, Mr. Geo. W.
Tullis, Mr. S.
Vaughan, Mr. H. S.
Villiges, Mr. L. de
Waghorn, Mr. G.
Walldow, Mr. R.
Warfield, Mr. and Mrs.
Warnken, Mr. John
Whitley, Mr. & Mrs. W.
Whitley, Mr. W. J. G.
Wild, Mr. and Mrs.
Bagnall.
Wonders, Mr. E.
Zuniga, Mr. J. M. de

OPIUM QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, 12th April.
New Patna \$60 per chest.
New Benares 945 " "
Old Benares 885 "
New Malwa 930 per picul.
Old Malwa 930 "
Perfumed paper tied 870/880 "

The Share Market.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.
(April 12th.)

Companies.	Paid up Capital.	Latest quotation.
Banks.		
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.....	\$125	317 1/2 % premium
The Bank of China & Japan, Limited—(Preference)	£ 5	Nominal
The Bank of China & Japan, Limited—(Ordinary)	£ 4	£1 buyers
The Bank of China & Japan, Limited—(Deferred)	£ 1	£5 5/8 buyers
Marine Insurances.		
Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd.	£ 50	£235
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	£ 25	£54
North China Ins. Co. Ltd.	£ 25	Tls. 170
Yangtze Ins. Assoc. Ltd.	£ 60	£140
Canton Ins. Office, Ltd.	£ 50	£130
Straits Ins. Co., Ltd.	£ 20	£1
Fire Insurances.		
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£300
China Fire Ins. Co. Ltd.	£ 20	£80
Shipping.		
Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Co., Limited.....	£ 15	£304
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£92
China & Manila S.S. Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£100
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£51
China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd.—(Pref.)	£ 10	£10
China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd.—(Over)	£ 5	£5
Star Ferry Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£184
"Shell" Transport & Trading Co., Ltd.	£ 100	£260
Refineries.		
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	£ 100	£130
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.	£ 100	£41
Mining.		
Punjum Mining Co., Ltd.	£ 7	£7.30
Punjum Mining Preference Shares	£ 1	£1.40
Societe Francaise des Charbonnages du Tunki, Ltd.	Frs. 250	£320
Queen Mines, Ltd.	25 cts.	£0.22
Jeletku Mining and Trading Co., Ltd.	£ 5	£1.3
Raub Allan Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	15s. 1d.	£59
Olivers Freehold Mines, Ltd. A.	£ 5	£5.75
Olivers Freehold Mines, Ltd. B.	£ 4	£4.50
Great Eastern & Canadian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	£ 5	£0.70
Do. (Preference) Docks, Wharves and Godowns.	£ 1	£0.40
Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	£125	490 % prem.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£86
Wanchai Warehouse & Storage Co., Ltd.	£ 37	£47
New Anony Dist. Co., Ltd.	£ 64	£201
Lands, Hotels and Buildings.		
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£10
Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£126 buyers
Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd.	£ 30	£26
West Point Building Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£47
Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£121
Humphrey's Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£10.25
Cotton Mills.		
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving & Dyeing Co., Ltd.	£ 100	£37
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
International Cotton Mfg. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Louk-kung-nou Colou Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Soh Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.	Tls. 500	Tls. 400
Miscellaneous.		
Green Island Cement Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£24 buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	£ 15	£18
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£64 buyers
Watkins Limited	£ 10	£10.70
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£12
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	£ 2	£1.20
Hongkong and China Gas Co., Ltd.	£ 10	£135
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£162
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Ltd.	£ 25	£48
Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.	£ 25	£166
Hongkong High Level Tramways Co., Ltd.	£ 100	£165
Dairy Farm Co., Ltd.	£ 6	£61
Cotton Quotations.		
Hongkong, Canton and China Bakery Co., Ltd.	£ 50	£50 buyers
Oriental Agency, Ltd.	£ 4	£51
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Ltd.	£ 10	£11
Carmichael & Co., Ltd.	£ 20	£8
Tebrau Planting Co., Ltd.	£ 5	£5
Tebrau Planting Co., Ltd.	£ 4	£4

BENJAMIN, KELLY & POTTS,
Share Brokers.
Telegraph Address—"Rialto."
Telephone No. 148.

VISITORS AND RESIDENTS AT THE PEAK HOTEL.

Beattie, Mr. Andrew	John, Major G. R. St.	DIRIGO, American ship, 2,450 tons, Goodwin, 21st Mar.—New York 29th Oct., Kerosine—Standard Oil Co.
Bryne, Mr. H. F. R.	Layton, Mr. B.	Rurik, Russian flagship, 10,910 tons armoured twin screw cruiser, 1st class, 48 guns, 13,500 h.p., Capt. Haup, at Port Arthur.
Bure, Mr. P.	Martin, Mr. R.	GEO. T. HAY, British ship, 1,647 tons, Ballast—Siemens & Co.
Carie, Mr. Arthur R.	Mackie, Mr. C. Gordon	JOHN CURRIER, American ship, 1,818 tons, Lawrence, 11th Mar.—New York 14th Sept., Kerosine—Standard Oil Co.
Carrington, Mr. Sir John W.	Mitchell, Mr. R.	MOBILE BAY, British bark, 1,117 tons, James A. Boyd, 18th Mar.—Hongkong 6th Mar., Coal—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Dann, Mr. G. H.	Neall, Mr. Stuart G.	Sissoi Velikiy, Russian battleship, 10,000 tons, 14 guns, 8,500 h.p., Capt. Mollas, at Nagasaki.
Dreco, Mr. F. J. Haver	O'Gorman, Madame	Stoutch, Russian gunboat, 950 tons, twin screw 13 guns, 1,200 h.p., Capt. Soubat, at Nagasaki.
Ezekiel, Mr. J. S.	Pollock, Hon. H. E.	Vladimir Monomach, Russian cruiser, 6,000 tons, 16 guns, 1,600 h.p., Capt. Mathewson, at Hongkong.
Forbes, Mr. A.	Prynn, Capt. H. V.	WOLVERIN, British bark, 498 tons, 4 guns